

# JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردين تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

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BANK ALMASHREK S.A.L. has the pleasure to announce the opening of its New Jabal Amman Branch in the New Insurance Co. Bldg., at third circle, Jabal Amman, as of Saturday March 20th 1976.  
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**workers clash in London**  
March 19 (AFP). — Fifteen persons were injured today in a clash between demonstrators on a march to protest the high rate of unemployment. The injured were policemen, started when the marchers tried to break through a police line. The march was organised by trade unions. Between trade unionist demonstrators are rare in Britain.

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## arrives in Amman with arms list

March 19, (AFP). — Defence Minister Gen. Gamal Abdel Ghani arrived here today for talks with the French and for talks with Valery Giscard d'Estaing, Premier Jacques

said Gen. Gamal said arms supplies for Egypt's decision to sign the Soviet-Egyptian treaty. He said Gen. G. official visit to the outcome of the visit's pledge last week to help Egypt develop its arms industry is head of the ministerial committee.

He said the committee will discuss with the Egyptian government the possibility of a joint Arab-Israeli war to spare parts for the French-made aircraft. He said the committee will discuss with the Egyptian government the possibility of a joint Arab-Israeli war to spare parts for the French-made aircraft.

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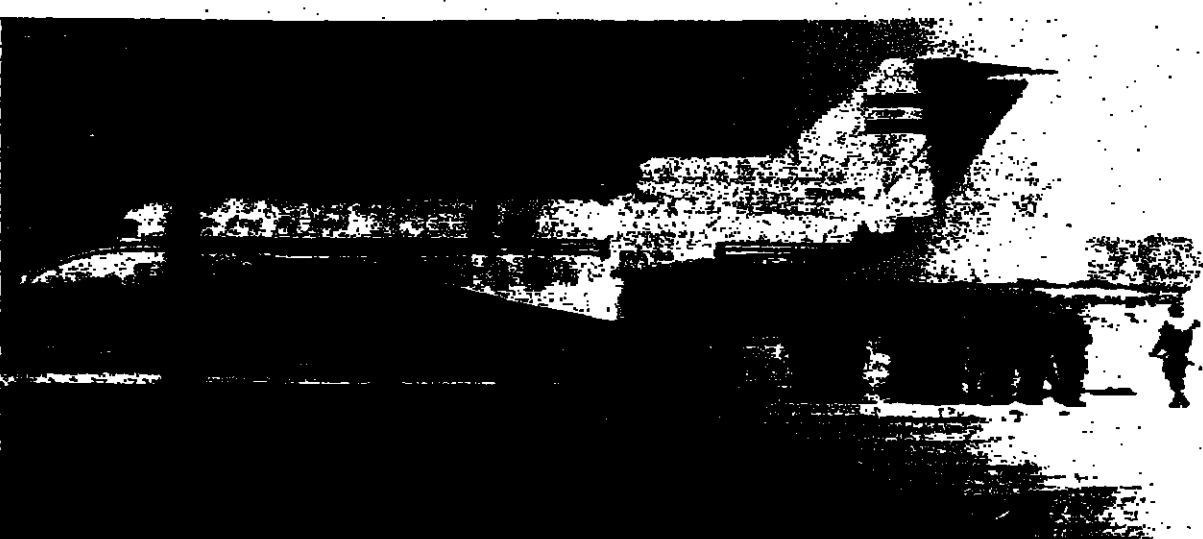
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## Callaghan's chances

March 19, (AFP). — The Exchequer Secretary's tardy decision to call a general election has detracted from Callaghan's chances.

Yet when Harold Wilson resigned the leadership earlier this week, he asked that the struggle for his succession between the party's right and left should be kept as brief as possible. Mr Wilson remains in charge of the government until his successor is named.

The nominations do not close until Monday, but it is not expected here that there will be more than the six candidates already announced who besides Mr Callaghan, aged 64, and (Continued on page 6)



**KARAMI UNDER ATTACK.** — A Syrian Arab Air Force jet stands crippled, blackened by rocket fire, and surrounded by troops of the "Lebanese Arab Army," and Syrian-backed Saiga Palestinian guerrillas, at Beirut Airport. The plane was being prepared to carry Premier Rashid Karami to Damascus for talks with President Assad. (AP wirephoto).

## To contain West Bank resentment Israeli paratroopers brought in

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM,** March 19, (Agencies). — Hundreds of Arab youth Friday turned weekly prayers at Ibrahimi's third holiest shrine into a massive demonstration against Israeli rule.

The demonstrators pledged their "blood and soul for Al-Aqsa" as Israeli helicopters hovered overhead in a show of strength and as large units of Israeli troops and security forces poured into Arab Jerusalem to cope with the demonstrations.

## Polisario renews appeal for EEC recognition

**BONN, March 19, (R).** — The Polisario Front for the independence of Western Sahara today renewed an appeal to the European Community (EEC) to recognise the Democratic Arab Republic of the Sahara which it proclaimed last month.

The appeal was contained in a letter to the EEC ministerial council, Polisario spokesman Mohammed Salem said today. His government was prepared to cooperate with all countries and follow a policy of non-alignment, he told a press conference in Bonn.

A West German foreign ministry spokesman said today his government regarded the Saharan conflict as a regional problem in which it did not wish to interfere.

The spokesman added that consultations were going on among EEC members about the status of the Algerian-backed republic, which has so far been recognised by eight countries.

Arab leaders in the West Bank had declared today "Al-Aqsa Day."

Israeli security forces set up checkpoints at all gates to the ancient city. Incoming traffic was carefully searched. Israeli paratroopers were on foot patrol at the walls of the old city armed with clubs, shields and tear gas, and children were banned from travelling on the highways.

Paratroopers sealed off other West Bank towns to forestall any further clashes between students and Israeli troops after seven weeks of continuing Arab protest.

The northern city of Nablus was sealed off by police and paratroopers set up roadblocks and searched all vehicles entering the town. Traffic jams built up over hundreds of yards.

Inside the town, paratroopers cruised the streets in personnel carriers, carrying out spot checks on residents. In one incident, some 80 men were lined up against the wall of the central post office with hands on the wall while paratroopers searched them.

Despite the Israeli show of strength, the citizens of Hebron and Nablus managed to distribute pamphlets calling on the

## Ford appoints new head of China mission

**WASHINGTON, March 19, (AFP).** — President Ford today announced the nomination of former Defence Secretary Thomas Gates as head of the American mission in Peking with the rank of ambassador.

The President summoned newsmen to his oval office to personally disclose that he had made the appointment which he said reflected "our conviction that this relationship (with Peking) is of vital importance."

Mr Gates, 70, is at present head of the Executive Committee of the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, one of America's biggest banks. He succeeds George Bush, who left Peking to become director of the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Mr Gates's nomination to Peking does not have to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate because he will not be ambassador to Peking. The personal rank of ambassador conferred on him by Mr Ford will, however, require Senate confirmation.

population to rebel against the Israeli occupation authorities.

Israeli troops attacked demonstrators in Hebron outside the Ibrahimi Mosque who stoned the troops and chanted anti-Israeli slogans.

The Mayor of Hebron, Sheikh (Continued on page 6)

## Al Aqsa Day rally supports resistance of West Bankers

**AMMAN, (JT).** — A mass meeting held here Friday afternoon to express support for the people of the occupied West Bank on "Al Aqsa Day" denounced repressive Israeli measures and hailed the "valiant resistance" of the West Bank population.

The mass meeting, held at the professional syndicate complex, reaffirmed the support of all Jordanians to the West Bankers and adopted resolutions that: praised the struggle of the West Bankers, including those who have been detained and those martyrs who have

died for the sake of liberation; condemned all means and attempts to split Arab solidarity and dissolve the Palestinian question; condemned the 1975 Sinai interim agreement as the main success of imperialism; forced; called upon all Arab states to provide aid in the liberation struggle; called upon all Arab states to show continued support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole representative of the Palestinian people; and condemned all efforts to isolate Lebanon from the Arab homeland.

(Continued on page 6)



## Smith rejection causes Rhodesia talks collapse

**SALISBURY, March 19, (AFP).** — Rhodesian constitutional talks broke down here today after Prime Minister Ian Smith refused to accept immediate African majority rule.

Mr Smith immediately called on the British government to intervene and help to settle the dispute.

But London's reaction was that Britain will not take part in any negotiations between Mr Smith and the African nationalists until the white regime in Salisbury accepts the principle of a rapid handover of power to the African majority.

Both Mr Smith and Joshua Nkomo, leader of the Rhodesian-based faction of the African National Council (ANC),

**BEIRUT, March 19, (Agencies)** — Premier Rashid Karami escaped unhurt from an aircraft set ablaze by rocket fire shortly before it was due to take him and other Moslem leaders to Damascus today.

The delegation, all of which fled unhurt, had been due to confer with Syrian leaders on ways to end Lebanon's latest crisis, which erupted eight days ago with a so far inconclusive military attempt to oust President Suleiman Franjeh.

Gunmen scored a direct hit on the three-engined Syrian air force jet parked in the military section of Beirut's international airport. There was no clue as to the identity of the attackers, who clearly intended to sabotage peace efforts.

A radio broadcast later quoted Mr. Karami as saying he would continue to work "to-

wards rescuing the country from crisis".

Former Prime Minister Saeb Salam, also a passenger on the flight, told reporters how Mr Karami and half a dozen of his aides rushed to the rear door as the Soviet-built Yak-40 exploded in smoke and flames.

"By the time it was my turn, the flames were too high so I opened the emergency door and jumped," he said in the first eyewitness account of the shelling.

A third member of the delegation, Parliament Speaker Kamel Al Asaad, was in his car on the tarmac when the rocket hit home and he escaped unhurt.

The airport attack coincided with renewed clashes in and around Beirut.

Fierce fighting was raging in the hotels district of Beirut, where more than 40 people were reported to have been killed since yesterday.

The two sides, were backed by breakaway troops from the Lebanese army, with tanks and armoured vehicles.

As the fighting went on, rockets could be seen hitting the 32-storey Phalangist-held Murr Tower.

Today's clashes followed a night of fighting in which shel-

## Kreisky departs after talks here

**AMMAN, (Agencies).** — Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky left Amman today after the 24-hour Jordanian leg of his Middle East tour.

Dr Kreisky, who was accompanied by a delegation from the Socialist International, was received while here by King Hussein, Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Rifai.

At the airport, Dr Kreisky praised the Jordanian stand in the Middle East conflict judging it to be "logical, clear and intelligible."

Dr Kreisky added that he had held important discussions in Amman, and that "the Middle East situation grieves us as much as it grieves the countries of the region."

l-bursts and machine-gun fire could be heard.

An artillery battle was also going on in the mountains east of Beirut, where according to fragmentary reports, 30 to 50 people have been killed in the Aley region in the last 24 hours.

Communications were cut with the north of the country, where fighting was also taking place.

About 200 people have been killed in Lebanon this week, incomplete semi-official reports say.

Premier Karami's mission to Damascus today was to present Syrian President Assad with a working document on how to end the Lebanese crisis.

According to the Phalangist newspaper Al Amal, the document has received the "consent of several parties and prominent figures" and formulates "the essential principles for the solution of the Lebanese crisis on both the military and political levels."

Meanwhile General Aziz Al-Ahdab accused President Franjeh today of trying to foil Syria's mediation effort in Lebanon.

Mr. Franjeh should quit the presidency "because he is an obstacle that bars any plan to solve the crisis and develop the country," General Ahdab said in a declaration broadcast on a radio station which supports him.

The general repeated his contention that "the president is considered to have resigned."

## N.A. Air Defence commander could unleash nuclear war

**WASHINGTON, March 19, (AFP).** — The Pentagon is considering revoking the North American Air Defence (Norad) commander's right to launch (Continued on page 6)

## Spain to allow legal parties to organize

**MADRID, March 19, (R).** — The government of King Juan Carlos, in a major step towards greater political freedom in Spain, has decided to lift the ban on political parties which has existed since the Spanish civil war ended in 1939.

It announced last night it was revising the penal code of the late General Francisco Franco to enable such parties as the Socialists or Christian Democrats to organise freely. But communist, anarchist or separatist groups would remain illegal.

The government earlier announced it was removing political associations from the jurisdiction of the Francoist National Movement and allowing, under certain conditions, political rallies and demonstrations.

The political reforms must be endorsed by the Cortes (parliament) and must be accepted by the opposition before Spain can move to parliamentary democracy on the style of the rest of Western Europe.

## JORDAN TIMES

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## Lurking danger

Israel is in a situation today that is fraught with danger for everybody in the Middle East. Considering the Israelis' obsession with "security", and their unique perception of their position in the Middle East, it is worthwhile keeping a close eye on what they do and what they say. Put yourself in their shoes for a moment.

They are sitting on a tinderbox in the occupied West Bank that is in the process of exploding, and they haven't the faintest idea of what to do.

They are making increasingly dramatic noises about what will happen if Syria does not renew the mandate of the U.N. peacekeeping forces on the Golan Heights when the current mandate ends in May.

They are worried about what is happening in Lebanon, particularly in view of the fact that the southern Lebanese border may fall into the hands of Palestinian commandos.

And they are even worried about the Egyptian front, where they have pulled out all the stops in an effort to block Sadat's arms procurement move with the West.

Internationally, the Islamic World has raised its voice forcefully against Israeli moves to change the Islamic and Arab character of Jerusalem.

It is further becoming increasingly clear to the Israelis that their sole support in international political forums is from the United States, and that now even the United States has made a fundamental decision to review its blank check policies of unlimited support for Israel.

Geographically, Israel sees trouble from all sides. Politically, it is isolated as never before. Economically, last week's latest devaluation and increase in commodity prices are a fresh reminder of the country's underlying frailty.

Internally, there is a growing crisis of confidence in the Labour Party leadership, highlighted by the return of Golda Meir to the decision-making nucleus of the party and the country. Mr. Rabin has been and continues to be a stop-gap premier, theoretically and, indeed, demonstrably suited to pursue the nation's essentially stop-gap policies.

The get-tough attitude the Israelis are showing on the West Bank is an attempt to regain some sense of purpose in their policies. Their thinking is that if they can strike with an iron fist against the continuing demonstrations on the West Bank, this will give them the aura of determination they basically do not possess.

The fear is that an isolated, frightened Israel will try to satisfy with a display of force on the West Bank, insofar as the world will assess it to be a display of force when an army attacks schoolchildren.

The fear is that an isolated, frightened Israel will try something more adventurous.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Three Jordanian dailies Friday commented on King Hussein's successful visit to several Far Eastern countries, with special reference to the postponement of his official visit to Mexico, while a Beirut daily discussed the persistent political stalemate in Lebanon.

Al Rai said that King Hussein has returned home at a time when the popular uprising in the West Bank and the brutal Israeli measures against it have both reached their peak.

The paper says those who followed up the King's trip to the Far East capitals know that by his true representation of the Arab position, he was able to open up wider horizons for Arab friendship, and consequently for the countenance of Arab rights in international forums.

While abroad, the paper continued, King Hussein at the same time was eagerly following up the news of our people in the occupied lands—their steadfastness, and their decisive rejection of occupation and aggression. He therefore had to postpone his official visit to Mexico and return home to watch the events more closely. The paper says that the West Bankers who are facing the powerful enemy forces, are looking around for help.

Ad Dustour says that thanks to King Hussein's efforts, the Arab issue was the main subject of interest by leaders of the Far Eastern countries the King visited. Hussein, the paper says, has clearly explained the situation, won greater support for the Arab rights and reinforced relations of friendship and cooperation between Jordan and those countries. Refer-

ring to the postponement of the King's visit to Mexico, Ad Dustour says that Hussein wanted to be with his people, in the forefront, particularly when the situation requires a wise eye to watch and scrutinise the nearby events.

Al Shaab sees that the postponement of the royal visit to Mexico means that the King intends to contact other Arab leaders for the coordination of a general Arab stand and the study of steps to be taken to help the West Bankers in their fight against enemy oppression, and also to halt the blood-letting in Lebanon.

The paper noted that while world opinion seems oblivious to what is happening in the occupied West Bank, it is the duty of the Arab leaders themselves to consolidate their efforts, as was the case during the October War, and to see that the uprising is given full support on the pan-Arab and international levels.

On the deadlocked situation in Lebanon the Al Nahar Beirut daily expects a political solution to be announced at any moment. It says the Lebanese leaders who returned from Damascus say the Syrian "panacea" is on the way, in accordance with the will of the Lebanese popular, military and parliamentary majority. "The pundits of the constitutional solution know too well what is the meaning of two-thirds of Parliament members demanding the resignation of President Frangieh. They also know, of course, the meaning of keeping Lebanon standing on the 'crater of a volcano,'" Al Nahar says.



## Crown Prince Hassan celebrates 29th birth

AMMAN. — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan celebrates Saturday his 29th birthday anniversary.

## Justice minister starts Syria visit

DAMASCUS. — The Jordanian Minister of Justice, Mr. Naji Al Tarawneh, arrived here Friday on an official three-day visit to Syria.

During his stay, Mr. Tarawneh will hold talks with his Syrian counterpart on the implementation of resolutions by the joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee regarding the unification of basic laws and legal proceedings between the two countries.

Discussions on these subjects will begin Saturday.

Prince Hassan had his elementary studies in Jordan, then went to Summerfield School in England, and then Harrow from which he graduated in 1964.

In 1967 he graduated from the University of Oxford with a B.A. in Political Science and History. He was nominated Crown Prince in 1965.

Prince Hassan has played an instrumental role in the development plans and he is the main architect of Jordan's present economy.

On this occasion the Jordan Times joins Prince Hassan in celebrating his 29th birthday with the hope that his leadership will continue to inspire Jordan's economic development.

## NATIONAL BRIEFS

● AMMAN. — The Minister of Justice Naji Tarawneh left Friday for Damascus via Ramtha to hold talks with the Syrian officials on coordinating the judicial system between the two countries, in the framework of the general integration policy adopted by both countries.

● AMMAN. — The Ministry of Agriculture will participate in the establishment of a factory project in coordination with the Agricultural Corporation, the Cooperatives Organisation and the Planning Commission.

## Jordan Valley Development Plan (part 1)

[Editor's note: The following is the first part of a series of articles covering the Jordan Valley and the integrated development programme that is promoting major changes in the Valley.]

Special to the Jordan Times  
 The Jordan Valley is potentially the most productive agricultural region in Jordan. It lies below sea level and constitutes one huge natural greenhouse which, with sufficient water, is capable of producing up to four crops a year. However, current agricultural production, farmers' income, social facilities, and general living conditions leave much to be desired.

During the late 1950's and 1960's Valley development projects were concerned with improving agriculture; little was done to provide housing and social services for the farmers.

There are about sixty odd communities in the Valley, housing some 75,000 people at present.

Growth has been haphazard even in the best of these communities, and nearly all lack basic utilities and services. The vast majority of housing is poorly constructed of mud bricks. There is only one doctor resident in the Valley, clinics facilities are inadequate, schools are frequently makeshift overcrowded buildings and most water for domestic use is taken from polluted sources.

A regional integrated development programme is now under way in the East Jordan Valley that is bringing about major physical, social and economic changes. This programme is gradually improving the quantity and quality of agricultural production, reducing the foreign trade deficit in agricultural commodities and raising living standards of the Valley people.

As present communities are replanned to provide healthy living conditions, work progresses on dam building and irrigation systems to increase agricultural land and productivity.

## THE JORDAN VALLEY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A rehabilitation and development plan for the Jordan Valley was formulated in 1972 as part of Jordan's Three Year Development Plan 1973-75. Since then, the Plan has been revised and expanded to cover the period up to 1982, when the major irrigation projects ever planned and executed in Jordan will be completed.

The Jordan Valley Development Plan in its totality will result in the expansion of irrigated land in the Valley from 115,000 dunums in 1973, to 206,000 dunums in 1977 and 360,000 dunums in 1982. Along with agricultural and social development projects, the Plan will result, by 1982-83, in:

1. An additional income of some JD 30 million in foreign currencies as a result

sult of increased exports of fruits and vegetables.

2. Increasing the incomes of some 13,000 agricultural families.

3. Increasing the value of the Valley's agricultural output from the present JD 12 million to about JD 42 million.

4. Trebling job opportunities in the Valley in both agriculture and supporting services.

5. Generally conducive atmospheres that will help attract new settlers to the Valley.

The major objectives of the Plan are to develop the land, water and human resources of the Valley to their full potential, and in doing so, greatly increase agricultural production and curtail rural to urban migration. To fulfill these objectives, it is planned to expand

Ghor agricultural land meets the steep valley slopes is the corridor area where communities, urban services, and the main irrigation canal are being located.

The Jordan River which meanders its way south from Tiberias in a narrow channel has eroded the Ghor down to form an extremely fertile flood plain — the "Zor." The boundaries of the Zor are formed by highly unstable, saline slopes called "Katar," leading up to the main Ghor Valley floor.

Water is an essential element in the Valley Development Plan. Unfortunately the fame of the Jordan River is not matched by the quantity or quality of its water. It is a brackish saline stream, unsuitable for intensive irrigation.

Water resources for irrigating the Ghor and Zor agricul-

tural farms has been assured by a three phase plan.

First, construction of the East Ghor Canal irrigation programme, currently two thirds completed) which enables three



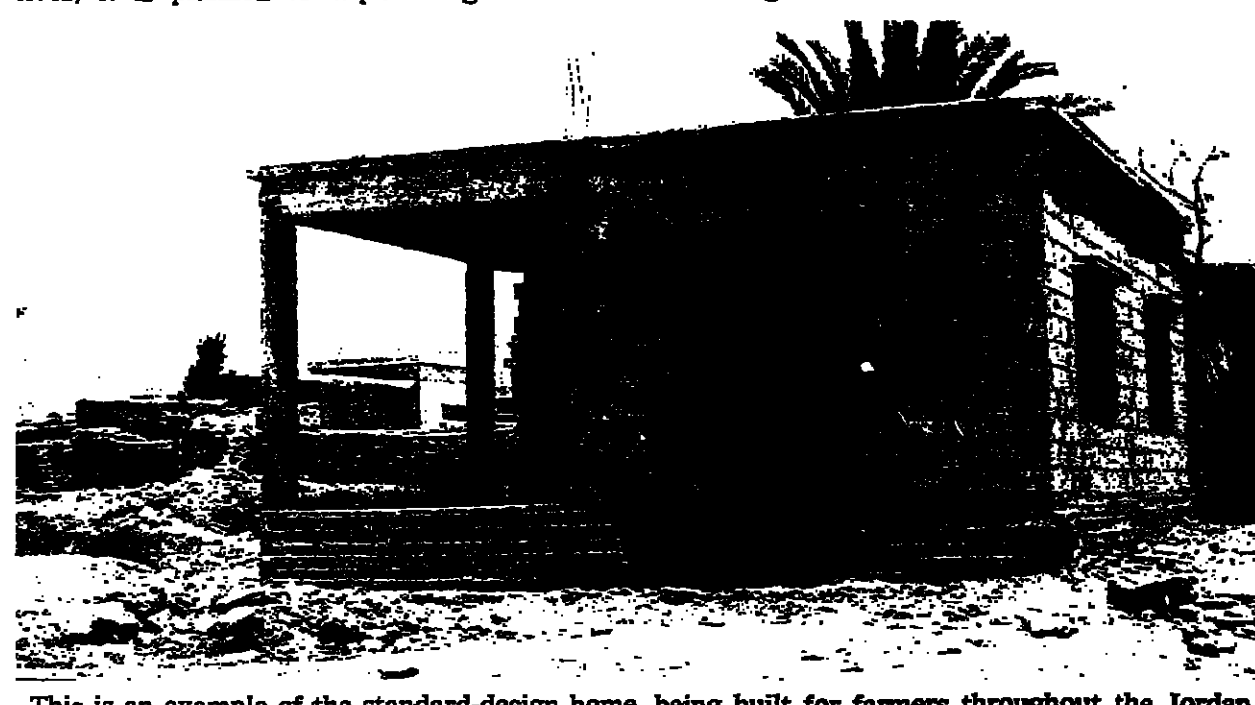
Waters of the Jordan River

or four crops to be raised yearly. The cost is amortised over the life of the project, thus re-

which allows preservers to retain up to 40 to 50 dunums of land for less tenant farmers.

Thirdly, provision of related support services related support A farmers' association, organised, which will the farmer with credit and easier access to inputs, seed, machinery, etc. The is developing four packing centers to market the farmers' produce thereby increase far more.

(to be continued)



This is an example of the standard-design home being built for farmers throughout the Jordan Valley. In this case, the farmer is adding a third room and a porch to the basic two-room structure.

irrigated agricultural land by 300 percent, double the population to 150,000 simultaneously raising living standards, and to create 33 well planned and serviced agricultural villages. Basic elements of the Plan are the land, water and people.

Land: The Jordan Valley is a rift valley, 100 kms. long and 5 to 10 kms. wide, running in a north-south direction between Lake Tiberias (200 metres below sea level) and the Dead Sea (400 metres below sea level). The Valley with its rich soil, has been blessed with a climate conducive to year-round agricultural production. Total arable land in the East Jordan Valley is 360,000 dunums (36,000 hectares).

The main agricultural floor of the rift Valley, known as the "Ghor," varies in width from 2 to 6 kilometres, and runs up the steep Valley slopes which flank the eastern edge and rise 500 meters to the highland plateau. The small linear transitional zone where the East

tural lands are available from tributaries flowing from the eastern highlands into the Jordan River. The Yarmouk River in the north and Zarqa River in the centre of the Valley are the largest. Since 1963 the main irrigation system has been the East Ghor Canal, which draws most of its water from a partial diversion of the Yarmouk River in the north and extends along two thirds of the Valley. Three reservoirs have been built on smaller Jordan River tributaries, namely: Ziglab (4.5 mcm capacity), Shueib (2.3 mcm), and Kafrein (4.3 mcm), these also contribute water to the Valley irrigation system.

People: The most important component in development of the Valley are the farmers. Attraction of a larger population to the Valley, faces two problems. The small farmer must have sufficient land to form an economically viable farm unit, and basic urban services must be provided in a rural environment. Future economic viability of

## Middle East Telecom Electronics

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## Cuba might sever established ties

March 19 (R) — A South African policeman apprehends a black South African during near-riots sparked off by crowds outside the Johannesburg Supreme Court, where seven Africans were standing trial for terrorism. (AP wirephoto).



**TROUBLE DOWN SOUTH.** — A South African policeman apprehends a black South African during near-riots sparked off by crowds outside the Johannesburg Supreme Court, where seven Africans were standing trial for terrorism. (AP wirephoto).

Observers here said the government's threat to sever ties with Cuba followed recent reports that Cubans have arrived in South Yemen.

These reports also said, the Cubans were training people in Dhofar, the southern province of the Sultanate of Oman, to overthrow the pro-Western Sultan Qabus Bin Said.

The Cuban presence in South Yemen, though still unconfirmed, probably signals a danger that an Angolan-type situation might also develop in Oman with Cuban soldiers fighting alongside the Dhofari rebels.

Such a development, the observers said, would be intolerable for Iran and other Arabian Gulf littoral states, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

Iran has said that the Gulf and the Straits of Hormoz form Iran's economic lifeline, which cannot be allowed to fall in the hands of 'subversive elements.'

It was with this thinking that Iran three years ago despatched troops to help Sultan Qabus crush the rebellion led by the Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman (PFLO).

Iran is likely to press ahead with its diplomatic efforts to get the Arabian Gulf littoral states to work together to maintain stability and security in the region.

Mr. Khatibzadeh said in an interview here on Wednesday that foreign ministers of seven Gulf states were holding meetings in Saudi Arabia, with the purpose of establishing close cooperation in the interest of the region.

He said it was not an easy function to get together for close, long-range cooperation in "a sensitive area," but added that Iran would continue its efforts.

## Italian communists pursue "moderate" line

ROME, March 19 (AFP). — The Italian Communist Party — the scourge of the West, if the Americans are to be believed — seems to have thrown its weight into the battle to save Italy and its capitalist system.

While making it clear that in their view the economic crisis is the fault of the Christian Democrat government, the Communists look, for the time being at least, as if they are prepared to help make sure things do not get any worse.

The party Secretary General, Enrico Berlinguer, held talks with Premier Aldo Moro on Wednesday, after which he commented: "The situation is serious. It is because of this seriousness that we must act co-ally."

The communists were also quick to disassociate themselves from a party member who had called for the resignation of Treasury Minister Emilio Colombo.

This moderation by the Communists is tantamount to moderation by the country's workers and has had a considerable effect on public opinion, which was showing alarm over the economic situation.

The near-panic on Wednesday over the big slide of the lira was gone by the next day and the Christian Democrat Party was able to open its annual congress in relative serenity.

The Christian Democrats gave the Communists little recognition however, for their role in bringing down the political temperature; and as soon as their congress opened, they offered the Socialists a deal that would exclude the Communists from power.

The offer was that the two parties would adopt a "progressive" political programme to solve the crisis, but without the participation of the Communists.

The Socialists, however, are unlikely to accept the offer as they said earlier this month at their own congress that there could be no political dialogue until after the legislative elections.

The problem for the Christian Democrats who do not command a majority in parliament then, is how to mount a go-it-alone policy that would avoid the elections, scheduled for the summer of 1977, being brought forward.

But the party is worn down by 30 years in power and is divided into about a dozen different factions, all of them with different, but none too clear, views on how to tackle the crisis.

If the 800 delegates at the congress can reach agreement it will be vital for Italy's political future.

## After 6 years of haggling West German Bundestag enacts new worker, shareholder co-management bill

BONN, Mar. 19, (AFP). — The West German parliament has overwhelmingly approved legislation bringing in co-management (mitbestimmung) inside companies.

The few critics in parliament have said that the legislation is either the beginning of the end for free enterprise, or else that it does not go far enough because parity of co-management is not assured.

Whatever the truth, the Bundestag has voted it through, after six years of argument between the Christian-Democrats and the current ruling Social-Liberal coalition.

Even within the coalition, there was tension. The Liberal Party agreed to a first draft

which provided real parity, but it then had second thoughts and demanded a number of changes.

So the result is a compromise. This new legislation takes effect next July 1 and gives companies two years in which to conform.

The law will apply solely to companies with more than 2,000 staff, or a total of 600 firms employing six million people in all. Some press and other companies are not included.

An attempt has been made to enact two basic principles: protection of minorities in companies, and safeguards for the right to private property.

In practice, shareholders' representatives and workers' delegates will occupy board seats in equal numbers. But if voting is even, the shareholders have the last word.

The chairman of the board will always be chosen from among the shareholders, and his voice is preponderant. At the same time senior executives are treated as separate among the staff delegates.

The staff side must include at least one person from each category: workers, executives and senior staff, the other seats being on a pro rata basis.

Boards will have 12, 16 or 20 members according to the company size. Trade unions

can have at least two of their permanent officials. Staff delegates are voted by direct suffrage in the case of firms with under 8,000 staff, and by run-off elections in larger firms.

The board will name the executive directorate and decide overall company policy.

In the view of industrial observers, a problem arises from the existence for the past 25 years of a form of parity co-management that seems incompatible with the new legislation.

In heavy industry, wage earners have the same number of seats as shareholders, but there is no separate place for senior executives. The staff can also veto the appointment of a personnel director they do not want, and this is not allowed for under the new law.

Quite a number of companies, it seems, are going to find themselves "caught" between the two laws.

An example is the Krupp group, which has to apply the existing parity rules at its steelworks, and has to conform to the new legislation at its subsidiary Mak Maschinenfabrik.

Most industrial observers believe that the old style joint management, which covers 600,000 to 700,000 wage-earners will in due course be brought into line with the new law.

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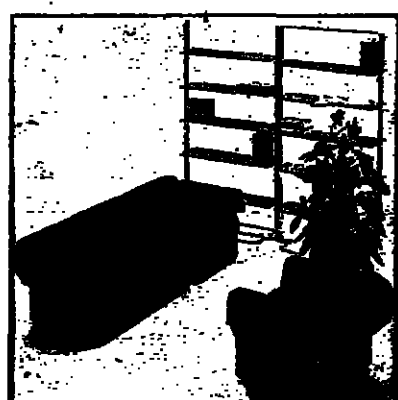
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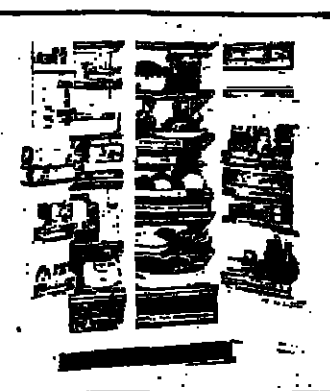
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## LONDON MARKET REPORT

Shares remained quietly mixed Friday with investors holding back ahead of the weekend and the new account.

Government stocks were quietly higher with shorts pairing up to 4 points.

Leading industrials were mostly unchanged, with falls of between 1p and 6p seen.

BP was 4p higher on balance in mixed oils after yesterday's figures while banks turned mostly easier after initial steadiness.

Mines eased after news of the breakdown of the Rhodesian constitutional talks, and southern Rhodesian bonds were marked down by up to 3 points.

Far East stocks were marked down after the rights issue and profits forecast an announcement from Wheelock.

Sime Barby added a net 3p after first half figures.

In easier mines, De Beers fell 8p on balance after being up higher on news of the breakdown of the Rhodesian talks, dealers added.

Leading equities to ease a penny or so included Courtauld, Marks, Reed International, GBC Tubes and Dunlop. Losses of 3p to 6p were seen in ICI, Glaxo, EMI, Hawker, Beecham and BAT.

## China competes against Indonesia in oil exports

JAKARTA, March 19 (AFP). — a serious competitor on the Association of South-East Asian (ASEAN) oil market.

### U.S. meat imports to be discussed with S.E. Asia exporters

WASHINGTON, Mar. 19 (AFP). — Earl Butz, Secretary of Agriculture, will go to Australia from April 15-18 as part of a Pacific and South-East Asia tour which will also take him to New Zealand, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, India and Pakistan.

The Department of Agriculture said that meat imports would be one of the main topics of discussion between Mr. Butz and officials in Australia and New Zealand. The State Department is currently negotiating with these exporting countries the voluntary level of exports which they will ship to the United States this year.

Mr. Butz is also expected to discuss the palm oil situation with Indonesian and Malaysian officials.

Reports said that China made new oil offers to Thailand in a direct challenge to the recent ASEAN agreement for closer inter-regional cooperation on foodstuffs and energy.

Meanwhile there has been no news of an oil deal Thai Foreign Minister Chatichai Choonhavan said he would discuss with Indonesian government officials on the occasion of the ASEAN summit in Bali last month.

The Indonesian daily Kompas noted today that, because of Chinese competition, Indonesian oil exports to Japan last year represented no more than 5 per cent of the total output against 70 per cent the year before.

The Indonesian observers predicted that the marketing of Indonesian crude would become extremely tough if Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Yamani's scheme for an oil freeze eventually comes through. Indonesia cut its export prices for Japan by ten to twenty cents as of last month, to face up to the competition from China.

### China orders W. German ethylhexan production unit

LUDWIGSHAFEN, West Germany, March 19 (AFP). — China has ordered an ethylhexanol production unit from the BASF Chemical Group, the West German firm's press department announced here today.

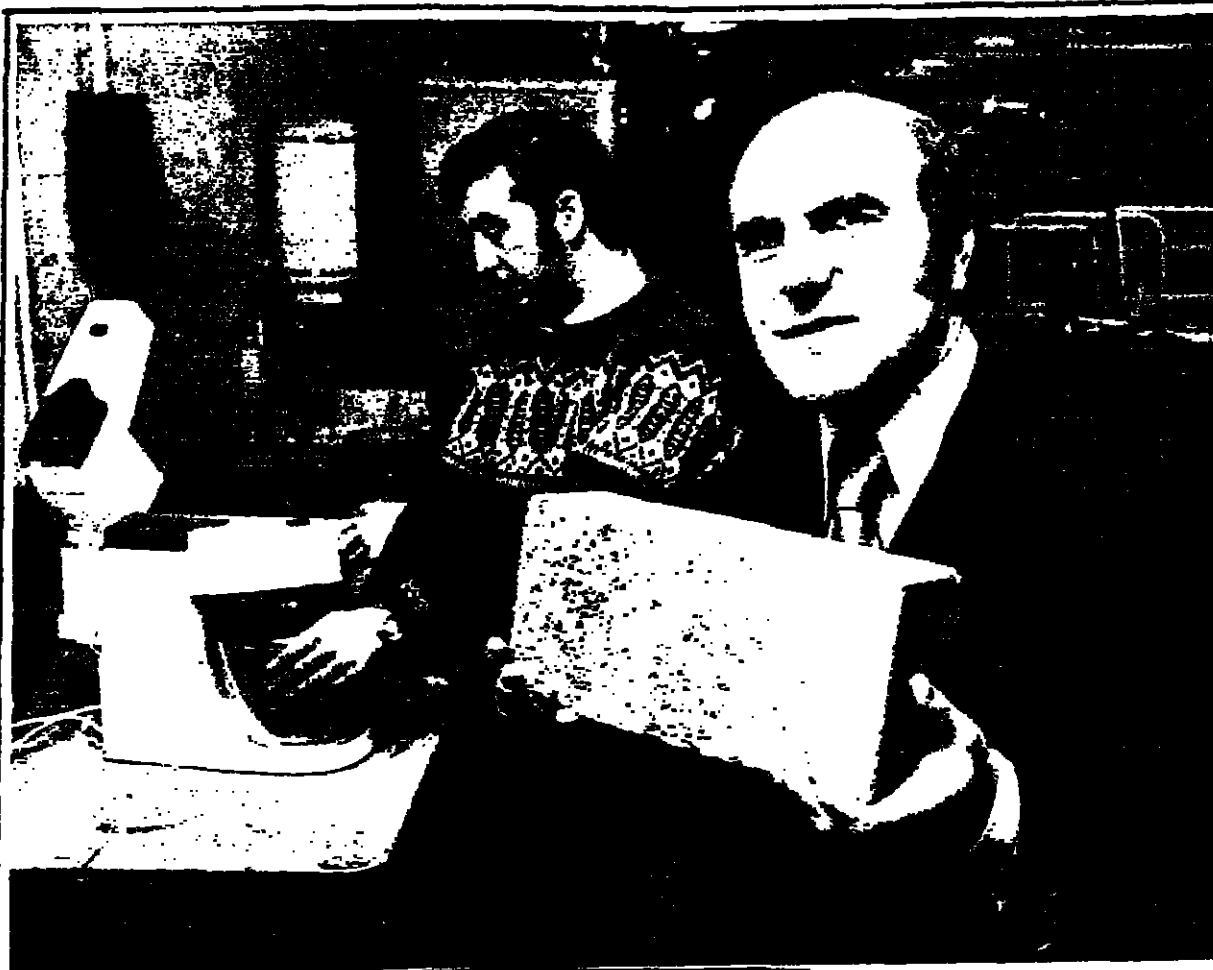
The estimated value of the contract is 60.0 million Deutsche mark (about \$23 million). Work will begin as soon as possible.

Ethylhexanol is an intermediate product needed to manufacture plastics.

### Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates at the close of the business day yesterday. The two figures denote buying and selling prices in Jordanian fils.

U.S. dollar:	331.0	331.0
U.K. sterling:	639.0	645.0
French franc:	71.2	71.5
Swiss franc:	131.4	131.8
German mark:	131.0	131.4
Iraqi dinar:	915.0	925.0
Saudi riyal:	93.2	93.7
Syrian pound:	84.0	84.1
Egyptian pound:	455.0	560.5
Lebanese pound:	131.0	132.2
UAE dirham:	83.3	83.8



**PERFECTING THE MUD HUT**, Two scientists at Britain's Building Research Station are engaged in work on the oldest building method of all—the mud hut — The mud brick, if it can be made impervious to water, is cheap and could ease the housing shortage — which according to a recent United Nations report stands at almost 920 million people homeless.

To help the scientists with their work African mud is specially sent to the Station where it is mixed with carefully measured quantities of lime. The lime interacts on elements already in the soil to form a hard, waterproof brick.

Prototype houses fashioned from the Station's recipe are soon to be constructed in Ghana and already one Asian country, Pakistan, has shown interest in the project.

## Chirac discusses economic relations with Libya

PARIS, March 19 (AFP). — Prime Minister Jacques Chirac will this Saturday become the first French premier to visit Libya.

The visit, lasting until Monday March 22, is of political significance, but will also be of economic importance as Mr. Chirac will be accompanied by Overseas Trade Minister Raymond Barre.

On Saturday, the French Premier will have talks with Head of State Colonel Moamer Gaddafi and Prime Minister Major Abdul Salam Jalloud, who came on a private visit to Paris a month ago. Mr. Chirac and Maj. Jalloud will be expected

to discuss French Libyan relations and a number of international issues including relations between Europe and the Arab World, Mediterranean affairs the Middle East, Western Sahara and the French territory of Afars and Issas (Djibouti).

Discussions that have taken place in the past show that a dialogue between the two countries is possible, even though their points of view are not identical.

The points of discord include the Middle East, where Col. Gaddafi has condemned the interim agreement between Egypt and Israel, and the Western Sahara, where the Libyan leader's stand is close to that of Algeria and favours self-determination for the people of the region rather than annexation by Morocco and Mauritania.

In addition, Col. Gaddafi has shown mistrust of relations between Europe and the Arab World.

As for Economic relations between the two countries, France's sales to Libya have multiplied more than eight times since the coup of 1969 that overthrew King Idris and brought Col. Gaddafi to power as a 29-year-old officer.

The French, who are Libya's third biggest suppliers behind Italy and West Germany, export to Tripoli mainly motor vehicles, electrical equipment, textiles and cereals, sugar and dairy products, totalling 1,735 million francs over £200 million last year.

In addition, France has sold Libya a large quantity of arms, including Mirage jets and helicopters.

Unusually for France's trade relations with an oil-producing country — Algeria is the only other example — the balance is in France's favour.

This is mainly because of Col. Gaddafi's nationalisation of the country's oil resources, driving away the major petroleum companies, and because of the world recession, which has led to a fall-off in oil demand.

French imports from Libya have fluctuated wildly over the past few years. In 1972 they were worth 1,277 million francs (£142 million), but in 1973 they slumped to 822 million francs (£91 million).

In 1974, they rose swiftly to 1,870 million francs (£208 mil-

lion), only to fall back to 857 million francs (£25 millions) last year.

The sudden improvement in 1974, when France also practically doubled its sales to Libya, followed the signing of a wide-ranging trade agreement covering oil, nuclear energy, sea and air transport, telecommunications, the French Secam television system, industrial and agricultural material, construction contracts, investment and technical cooperation.

A number of other projects are due to be discussed during Mr. Chirac's visit, including electricity stations, desalination plants and rail schemes.

Cultural relations will also be on the agenda, although the Libyans, the great Middle East disciples of Islamism and Arabism appear to attach less importance to this aspect of their relations with France.

Projects do exist, however, in the field of the teaching of the French language in Libya and on television cooperation.

## Sri Lanka launches biggest development project

COLOMBO, March 19 (AFP). — Water diverted from the Mahaveli River is coursing down a 22-mile route from Sri Lanka's hilly mid-country to irrigate the parched drought-ridden Rajarata (Royal territory) in the north central dry zone, the island's rice bowl in ancient times.

## Bangladesh, Nepal to trade, transit agreement

KATHMANDU, Mar. 19 (AFP). — Nepal and Bangladesh will conclude a bilateral trade and transit treaty when a ministerial-level delegation from Dacca comes here later this month, it was learned today.

### UNCTAD reports rise in basic products

GENEVA, March 18 (AFP). — The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) today reported a big rise in rates for basic products in January.

With base figure 100 in 1968, the increase was 198 in January compared with 189 in December and 184 in November.

The January increase amounted to five per cent. Coffee rose 7.11 per cent depending on category, cocoa was up six per cent, sugar also rose six per cent.

Grains and oilseeds dropped one per cent, but basic farm materials increased five per cent, with wool, rubber and cotton picking up well. Cottons recorded increases of between eight and 11 per cent.

Non-ferrous metals showed little change, although copper peaked up three per cent. Zinc and lead rose one per cent.

### \$15m U.S. loan extended to Portugal

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18 (AFP). — The United States today granted Portugal a \$15 million loan to help buy 50,000 tons of rice in America.

The loan is part of a \$240 million American aid programme to Portugal for the next 12 to 18 months. The agreement on this programme was signed at the State Department today by Portuguese Finance Minister Francisco Salgado Zenha and Daniel Parker, director of the American Foreign Aid Agency.

The United States will allocate \$135 million to Portugal during 1976 to help build up that country's economy. Of this sum, \$35 million will go to financing the settling in Portugal of refugees from Angola.

The delegation will be led by Dr M. M. Hossain, member of the Presidential Council on Trade and Commerce. An official source said the proposed treaty further promote trade between the two countries.

Nepal is increasing sea trade through or Khulna ports because landlocked. Nepal stretches in Calcutta known as Radhikapur. A Bangladesh official said "since Nepal and Bangladesh are having sea and transit treaties, there would be for transit facilities in Radhikapur."

Nepal and Bangladesh earlier conducted level negotiations during the treaty but were stalled because of desire to become a signatory countries.

The source said good prospects for trade between the two countries as Nepal exports timber, rice, boulders and other products and cotton and silk products and other items.

The transit treaty boost Nepal's trade with Bangladesh. An advance to Bangladesh Trade Ministry is due here 27.

### Hotel management agreement signed in Bahrain

BAHRAIN, March 19 (AFP). — The American Company tonight signed a management contract for a luxury hotel, the Marina complex, the first of its kind in the Gulf.

The complex is for its Bahraini or Bahrain Tourist Company, capital of Manama, capital of Bahrain.

Due to be completed in 1977, it has been mainly for and includes tennis courts, bowling, latest communication system, video system.

Work started on the hotel part of the self costing more than 100 million dinars (£8 million) year.

The complex will be in association with a hotel firm, the Senior Holiday.

Senior Holiday was here from yesterday to take a night's contract of money.

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## Scholar cites opportunity to strengthen U.S.-Arab relations

Now is the time for intellectual States and "to move to strategic and educational ties."

Michael C. Hudson, a Georgetown University scholar, has achieved a "new strategic importance" in the Arab world, according to a senior research fellow at Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, recently on a three-month tour of Arab nations.

Dr. Hudson, who has been in the Arab world for over a decade, is now in the United States to take a leave of absence from his post as a senior research fellow at the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University.

Dr. Hudson said the Institute has already held several seminars and guest lectures and will sponsor an April conference on Arab-American economic relations. Participants will include leading economists and government officials from America and the Arab World.

Dr. Hudson holds both Master's and Doctorate Degrees in political science from Yale University and a certificate in Arabic from Princeton University.

Before joining the Georgetown faculty, he taught at Swarthmore College, the City University of New York, and the Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies.

He is the author of "The Precarious Republic: Political Modernization in Lebanon," co-author of "World Handbook of Political and Social Indicators," and has just completed a manuscript on "Contemporary Middle East Politics: The Search for Legitimacy."

Reflecting on his ten years' teaching experience, Dr. Hudson said there has recently emerged a "qualitative improvement" in the basic knowledge of students enrolled in Middle East studies programs.

"Middle East studies have been a neglected area, he observed. 'But this is beginning to change. We now see a greater degree of sophistication about the area among undergraduates and a qualitative— as well as a quantitative—improvement in the basic knowledge students have.'

"This basic lack of knowledge—as well as a negative tinge to existing knowledge—has been one of the problems impeding the development of better relationships between the United States and the Arab World," he added.

Since 1960 Dr. Hudson has travelled extensively in the Middle East. His wife, the former Vera Wahbe, who was born in Jerusalem, often goes with him.

During recent visits to the area, he noted, he has witnessed an improvement in "Arab understanding of Americans."

Press coverage in the more important Middle East newspapers is of much higher quality than it used to be," he said, "although journalists still tend to oversimplify the complexities of American politics—just as our journalists often oversimplify the complexities of Middle East politics. There could be a great deal of improvement in media coverage on both sides."

"But I think that among Arab students there is an increased awareness and a greater factual knowledge about the United States," he continued. "And the average Arab college student knows more about America than his U.S. counterpart knows about the Arab World in general."

The Georgetown scholar noted educational exchange programs have been "particularly valuable" in improving America's image in the Middle East. "It is heartening that more and more Arab governments are sending students to U.S. universities," he said.

On his latest trip to the Middle East, Dr. Hudson researched the history of national planning of Egypt, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates. Traveling on a Guggenheim Fellowship, he also visited Oman and Qatar.

During the tour he delivered several lectures on the topics, Arab-American cultural relations, Arab studies in the United States, and the formulation of U.S. policy vis-a-vis the Middle East.

He said the trip was a "most valuable opportunity to talk with Arab officials and intellectuals about the potential—and problems—of future economic and social development in their countries."

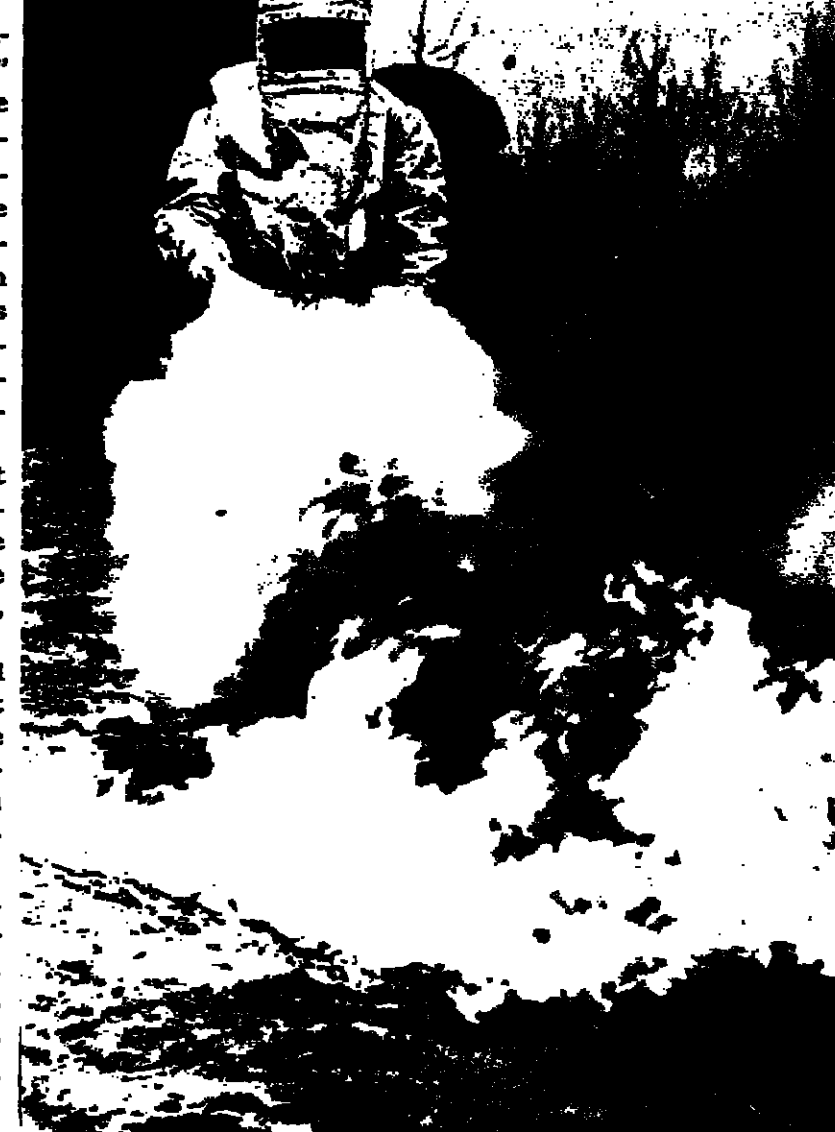
"I think that one of the common perspectives shared by these officials—and they are professionals in the highest sense of the word—is a kind of exhilaration at the real possibilities that lie ahead," he said. "There is no question that these governments and public administrators have made substantive strides in the last decade."

Dr. Hudson noted that in the wealthy areas there are financial resources to pursue development at a very rapid rate. He said many of the officials, however, feel a "kind of frustration because in many areas there is a lack of competent bureaucratic infrastructure, and the planning process is therefore in some ways underdeveloped."

Dr. Hudson will soon depart on the second phase of his research endeavor which will take him to Saudi Arabia, Iraq, the Yemen Arab Republic, Jordan, Syria, and Tunisia.

The trip promises professional as well as personal fulfillment for the professor who finds the Arab Middle East "an extremely friendly culture—to foreign visitors in general, but to Americans in particular."

"When you consider the political differences between our governments," he muses, "it never ceases to amaze me to encounter in the Arab World so much warmth on the personal level. It is hard to recall negative experiences there. They go out of their way to be friendly."



A Russian scientist demonstrates a newly developed fire fighting device that can extinguish an area of 100 sq. m in 14 secs.

## Labour safety: A tremendous task

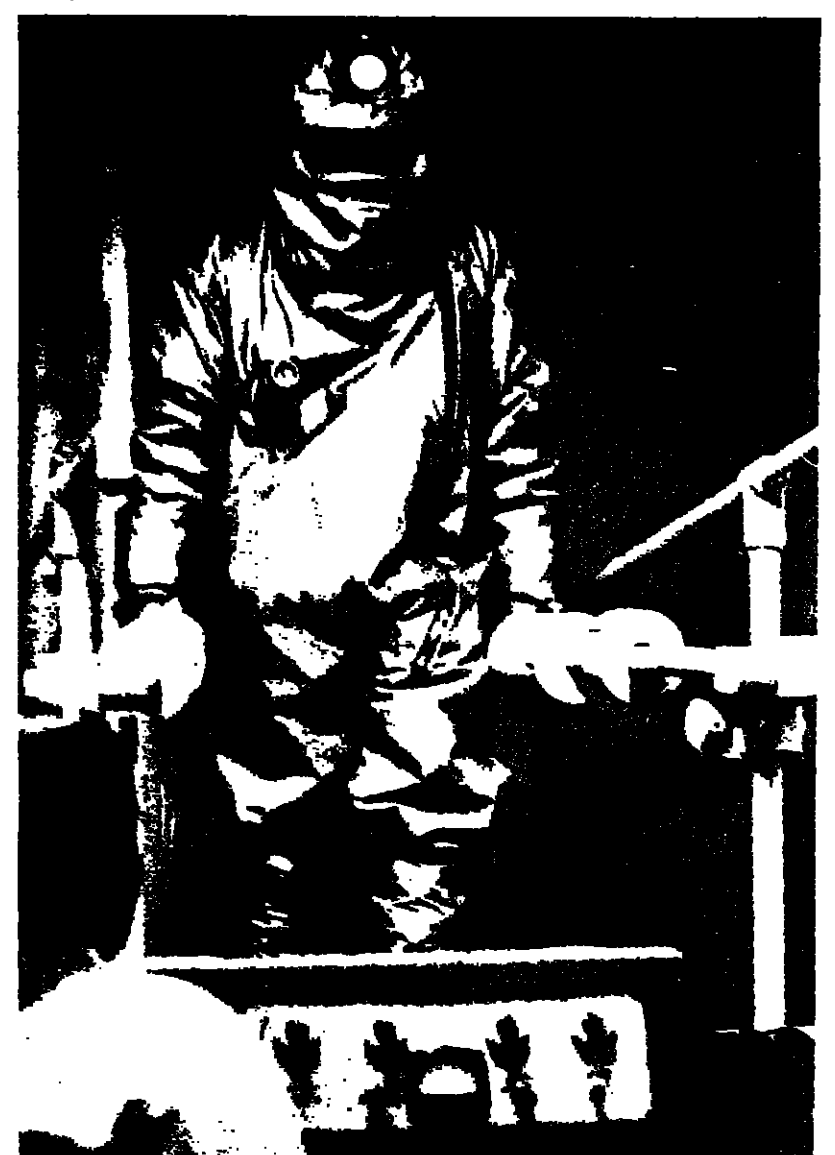
Today the USSR, the world's biggest coal-producing power, mines more than 700 million tons of solid fuel a year. In some 15 years, about 1,000 million tons of coal will be extracted from mines and open quarries of the Soviet Union, says Boris Bratchenko, Soviet Minister of coal-mining industry of the USSR.

At the same time, the Soviet state attaches paramount importance to safety measures. Annually over 90 million roubles is spent under collective agreements on labour safety and accident prevention measures in Soviet mines.

Over 400 research and design organisations of the country, including 32 specialised institutes, are engaged in developing various equipment and conduct research in the field of labour safety.

The responsibility for observing the rules of labour safety and accident prevention rests subordinated directly to a special committee under the Council of Ministers of the USSR and to the local trade-union committee.

At each mine there are also two inspection teams, independent from the management and subordinate directly to a special committee under the Council of Ministers of the USSR and to the local trade-union committee.



This new gas and heat reflecting suit with breathing apparatus can be used in the event of a fire or an accident in a mine. It has been designed at the Institute of Mine Rescue Work in Donetsk (Soviet Ukraine).

## Where to lunch and dine Today

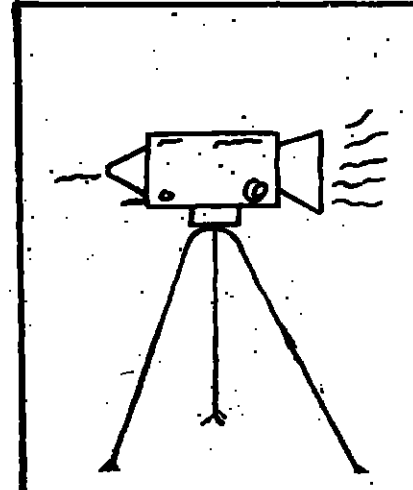
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## Television

**CHANNEL 6:**  
7.30 News in Hebrew  
7.45 Varieties  
8.30 Dirty Sally  
9.10 Medical story  
10.00 News in English  
10.15 Movie of the week (on both channels)

## Amman Airport

### ARRIVALS :

8.20 Muscat, Doha  
8.30 Aqaba  
8.30 Bangkok, Bahrain  
8.40 Dhahran, Kuwait  
8.45 Karachi, Dubai  
9.25 Tehran  
9.50 Beirut  
16.15 Cairo  
18.30 Beirut  
18.50 London

## Radio

(ON 856 KHZ)  
7.00 Breakfast show  
7.30 News Bulletin  
7.45 Morning melodies  
8.00 Pop International  
8.30 Listener's Choice  
10.00 Sign off  
12.00 Pop session (part I)  
13.00 News Summary  
13.03 Pop session (part II)  
14.00 News Bulletin  
14.10 Break for Music  
14.30 Melody time  
15.00 Classical music  
15.30 Light Instrumentals  
16.00 Old Favourites  
16.30 Easy listening  
17.00 Opera in Germany  
17.30 Book Review  
18.00 News Summary  
18.05 News Reports Round Up  
18.30 Industry and technology  
19.00 News Bulletin  
19.10 Songs  
19.30 Sign off

## Market Price

Apples (golden) : 130-170  
Apples (starken) : 140-180  
Apples (double red) : 200-260  
Bell pepper : 200-280  
Bananas : 150-190  
Cabbage : 40-55  
Cauliflower : 50-70  
Carrots (yellow) : 40-55  
Carrots (black) : 50-65  
Cucumbers (small) : 120-160  
Cucumbers (large) : 70-100  
Eggplant (large) : 80-120  
Eggplant (small) : 80-120  
Grapefruit : 50-65  
Green walnut (local) : 180-220  
Green walnut (dry) : 200-240  
Green walnut (Sy.) : 240-300  
Garlic (dry) : 50-70  
Garlic (green) : 140-200  
Lettuce (large) : 60-80  
Lettuce (small) : 30-50  
Lemon : 80-110  
Horse beans : 80-110  
Hot pepper : 400-500  
Marrow (small) : 100-140  
Marrow (large) : 50-70  
Oranges : 80-120  
Onions (dry) : 150-190  
Onions (green) : 140-200  
Potatoes (local) : 90-120  
Potatoes (Egyp.) : 80-110  
Peas : 180-220  
Spinach : 40-60  
String beans : 200-240  
Tangerines : 70-100  
Tomatoes : 50-70

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Dr Muhammad Khalil (56294)  
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Nassar (23791)  
**TAXIS :**  
Jerusalem (30655)  
Neel (44433)  
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## Tonight's TV Features

### DIRTY SALLY ALL THAT GLITTERS

Sally and Pike help an orphaned girl who prove to be a thief. They succeed in tricking her and get back stolen property.

### MOVIE OF THE WEEK THE HATFIELDS AND THE MCCOYS

Starring: Jack Palance, Steve Forrest

Two families who have been long time enemies fight each other until one young man from one of them falls in love with a young woman of the other party.

### MEDICAL STORY PART I

The first of two episodes in which a young doctor objects to an operation to be performed on a girl in spite of the surgeon's resolution to do it. Operation in takes place, girl dies. Young doctor takes the case to court.

## Princess Margaret, Lord Snowdon to separate

LONDON, March 19, (R). — Britain's Princess Margaret today formally announced she is splitting up with her husband, the Earl of Snowdon, after nearly 16 years of marriage.

The couple will live apart but not divorce, said a statement issued from the Princess's London home.

The announcement confirmed what had increasingly become public knowledge—that the 45-year-old Princess and her 46-year-old husband have for some time gone their separate ways.

From Buckingham Palace came a statement that Queen Elizabeth, elder sister of the Princess, was "naturally very sad at what has happened."

The Queen's Press Secretary said:

"There has been no pressure from the Queen on either Princess Margaret or Lord Snowdon to take any particular course."

Official confirmation of the break-up came in a six-line statement from Kensington Palace, the Princess's London residence.

It said:

"Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon and the Earl of Snowdon have mutually agreed to live apart."

"The Princess will carry out

## Commander could unleash nuclear war

(Continued from page 1) defensive nuclear missiles without presidential assent, according to a former Defence Department official.

Rear Admiral Gerald Miller told a Senate subcommittee yesterday that Norad had the power to launch low-yield nuclear missiles without presidential authorisation if it was found impossible to contact the president in the event of a direct threat to the nation's security.

He added, "I understand that action is under way in the Department of Defence to revoke this authorisation in the near future."

He said methods of detecting an attack from abroad were now so efficient that the authorities felt there was no longer any danger of being unable to reply to a surprise attack after warning the president.

## Healey nomination hurts Callaghan

(Continued from page 1) Mr Healey, aged 58, are Employment Minister Michael Foot, aged 62, Environment Minister Anthony Crosland aged 57, Energy Minister Antony Wedgwood Benn, aged 51, and Home Secretary (interior minister) Roy Jenkins, aged 55.

Mr Healey's candidature, by splitting the "moderates" vote might allow Mr Foot, the left's main candidate, to be better placed next Thursday in the first round of the leadership race. His personal position in the next government would be incontestably strengthened, but it is thought unlikely he will beat Mr Callaghan.

Despite the new stature he has acquired by becoming Employment Minister, Mr Foot remains for many people a kind of "red bogeyman."

Mr Callaghan is generally thought would be better placed to win Labour the next general election.

That leaves the right's main candidate Mr Jenkins who seems to be gaining strength, and the final ballot might be between Mr Callaghan and Mr Foot observers said.

her public duties and functions unaccompanied by Lord Snowdon.

"There are no plans for divorce proceedings."

Court sources said the separation was worked out with the advice of lawyers but was a private arrangement which did not require action in the courts.

The effect of the agreement was to regulate the arrangements between them in precise and written form, the sources

## Rockefeller starts 7-nation tour

WASHINGTON, March 19, (AFP) — Vice-President Nelson Rockefeller left here today for a seven-nations tour that will take him around the world in 16 days.

Mr Rockefeller will represent the United States tomorrow in Tunis at celebrations of Tunisia's independence day.

His trip, which is part of the U.S. bicentennial observance, will then take him to France for two days, where he will be a luncheon guest of President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing on Monday, and to Iran, where he will meet with Shah Reza Pahlavi from next Tuesday to Thursday.

Mr Rockefeller is scheduled to be in Malaysia on March 26 and 27, Singapore on March 28 and 29, Australia on March 31 and New Zealand on April 1-3.

He will meet with the leaders of those nations, and return to the U.S. on April 4.

## Italy may stop importing oil because of the lira situation

ROME, March 19 (AFP). — Italian oil companies have said they may have to stop importing oil, for monetary reasons. In a statement through their business organisation they said that it was "impossible to continue importing crude oil with the exchange rate at 880 lire to the dollar."

The companies noted that the official price committee set the price for petroleum products on March 12 when the rate was only 776 lire to the dollar, instead of the present rate of nearly 900 lire.

They said that the government had not allowed for the oil companies to make up the loss arising from the drop in the lira.

Immediate steps were called for if the country was to continue receiving oil from abroad.

## Algeria, Libya discuss development of trade

ALGIERS, March 17 (R). — Algerian Trade Minister Layachi Yazir flew to Tripoli today to discuss the development of trade links with Libya. The visit is in line with recent moves at head of state level aimed at an eventual merger of the two countries.

Princess Margaret is to remain in custody of the couple's children, 14-year-old Viscount Linley and 11-year-old Lady Sarah.

Lord Snowdon will have access to the children, the sources said.

The Princess will continue living at Kensington Palace. Lord Snowdon, now in Australia on a visit, will start looking for a London flat of his own.

The decision will not affect the Princess' position as fifth in line of succession to the throne. Nor will it make any difference to the 35,000 sterling a year she receives from the Treasury. Financial arrangements between the couple are being kept confidential.

The emphasis on lack of plans for divorce reflected a long-standing principle observed by the British monarchy.

As head of the Church of England, the Queen must set her face against divorce.

## Portuguese communists fight "symbolic" feud

LISBON, March 19, (AFP). The Portuguese elections could be delayed if the courts cannot resolve the dispute between the Communist Party and the Maoist Movement for the Reorganisation of the Proletariat Party (MRPP), as to which has the right to use the symbol of the hammer and sickle, it was learned here today.

The dispute is delaying the production of election materials and particularly the voting slips which must, by law, carry the symbols, of the different parties.

## Israeli paratroopers brought in

(Continued from page 1) Muhammad Ali Jaabari, threatened to resign if the Israeli government failed to have the court ruling allowing Jews to pray in the esplanade of the Al-Aqsa Mosque quashed.

The Mayor of Bethlehem issued a strongly worded call for an end to Israeli military rule. He added: "We want to be free."

## Al Aqsa Day rally

(Continued from page 1) Photo here shows the main speakers at the rally under a banner that reads: "Victory for the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied homeland."

From left to right, they are: Mr. Rouhi Al Khatib, the Mayor of Arab Jerusalem; Mr. Sulaiman Hadidi, head of the lawyers' syndicate Sheikh Abdul Hamid Sa'eh; Dr. Hassan Khrais, head of the doctors' syndicate; and the Reverend Elia Khoury, of the PLO executive.



RUMOURS FLYING AGAIN. — England's Princess Margaret and husband Lord Snowdon are shown in a happy moment two years ago. The two are currently the centre of separation rumours circulating around London. (AP wirephoto).

## U.S. asks Thai extension of negotiations deadline

BANGKOK, March 19, (AFP). — The United States has asked for more negotiations with Thailand on the status of American military advisers after tomorrow's deadline for the withdrawal of American forces there, Thai Premier Kukrit Pramoj said here today.

Prince Kukrit told newsmen after an hour-long meeting with U.S. Ambassador Charles Whitehouse that the Americans were asking for "certain privileges" for the advisers who will remain in Thailand after the withdrawal of American combat forces. The Americans had agreed that the advisers would be subject to Thai law, the premier said.

He indicated that his government was considering extending the negotiations beyond tomorrow's deadline and that a time limit for the talks would be fixed at another meeting tomorrow.

"They (the Americans) want to continue negotiations after March 20," Prince Kukrit declared. "We are asking how long these negotiations will go on." Thailand would not agree to granting the advisers diplomatic status, he said.

The U.S. is reported to have asked to retain about 4,000 military advisers and technicians to man high-powered communications centres in Northern Thailand. The Thai government has made it clear they would have to come under Thai law and that their operations must not interfere in the affairs of Thailand's neighbours.

The MRPP is unlikely to back down, as it is said to feel that it is the sole true defender of the Communist cause.

Meanwhile the curfew remained in force in Ramallah, El-Bireh and Halhoul.

In a related development reuter reported that Israeli military police claimed to have arrested a soldier suspected of wounding three Arab children during the demonstrations in the town of Abu-Dees near Jerusalem last Wednesday.

At the United Nations, Moslem nations called on the Security Council to take action against Israel for "radically changing the religious, cultural, demographic and political status of Arab Jerusalem."

Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon said in Tel Aviv that Israel may participate in the U.N. Security Council debate on the West Bank even if the Palestine Liberation Organisation were invited to attend.

## Turkey outlines new for American bases

ANKARA, March 19 (AFP). — We are asking that the U.S. bases in Turkey will not be reopened before the U.S. totally lifts its arms ban on Turkey, Turkish Foreign Minister Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil said today.

This would apply "even if there is an agreement on the new status of the bases," he said in an interview with the daily newspaper Tercuman.

Mr. Caglayangil, who will visit Washington next week for talks with U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, said the Turkish government considered that the arms ban had been only partially lifted.

There were other problems to be settled between Washington and Ankara, he added.

The Turkish authorities took over the 26 U.S. bases in Turkey last July following the U.S. administration's failure to persuade Congress to lift the ban partially.

The arms embargo was imposed in October 1974 and extended in February 1975 partly because of Turkey's involvement in the Cyprus crisis. It has since been partially lifted.

Mr. Caglayangil said there was no question of Turkey asking the United States for the bases.

## Scranton presents U.N. credentials

UNITED NATIONS, March 19, (R). Mr William Scranton presented his credentials to Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim today as the 14th permanent representative of the United States at the United Nations.

The former Governor of Pennsylvania succeeds Mr Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who resigned to return to Harvard University after accusing some U.S. state department officials of undercutting him at the U.N. Congress.

We are asking that the U.S. bases in Turkey will not be reopened before the U.S. totally lifts its arms ban on Turkey, Turkish Foreign Minister Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil said today.

"If we reach agreement on this, how could we then rent for our own interests," he asked.

Turkey, he said, needed material support to be able to play the role which the U.S. was asking of it, he went on.

Such support existed in the U.S. embargo on defence agreements possible only when port had been restored.

He said that the American bases were the sole reason for the trip, though diplomats have been speculating weeks that Mr. Caglayangil's new agreement could sue.

Meanwhile, a source here said the Turkish government had proved the recommendation of the National Security Council on the agreement.

These were that: — The defensive positions in Turkey commanded by military who were in information to charge and the ed.

— There will be number of American Turkish personnel bases and the ranking American will refer all the Turkish command.

— The agreement bases on a "balance of interest" will be vulnerable lateral cancellations party refuses its responsibility.

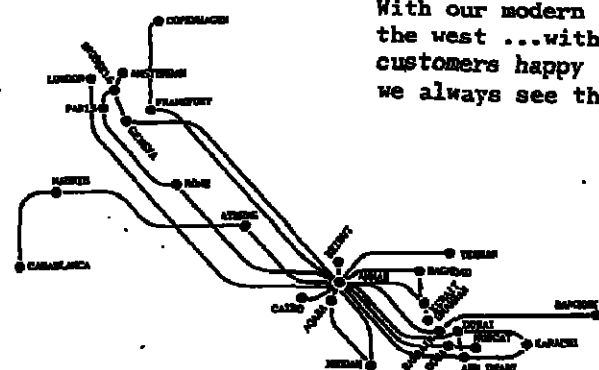
Observers see this as a reference to Congress.

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